

Reference: Adjutant General's Files
Sacramento, Sacramento County
Organized June 28, 1858
Reorganized March 19, 1880*
Reconstituted July 1, 1893**
Mustered out December 10, 1894

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Philip J. Glas, Captain (reelected July 19, 1892)	July 12, 1888	Aug. 2, 1888***
Alverst J. Lloyd, Captain (reelected July 19, 1892)	July 12, 1888	Aug. 2, 1888***
Alverst J. Lloyd, Captain	Nov. 28, 1893	Dec. 23, 1893
William C. Schmeiser, First Lieut.	Nov. 28, 1893	Dec. 23, 1893

Activities:

Company A was one of the oldest companies in the State service and the organization dated back before the Civil War. Previous to being transferred to the Second Infantry Regiment, July 1, 1893, under its present designation, the corps was known as Battery A, First Artillery Regiment, Fourth Brigade, known in early years as the Independent City Guard. The transfer was in accordance with the wishes of Brigadier-General F. W. Sheehan, commanding officer of the First Artillery Regiment, and the approval of the Board of Location and Organization. Captain Alverst J. Lloyd, the commanding officer of the Company, had enlisted with the Governor's Guard Cadets, First Artillery Regiment in 1858, and the following year transferred to Battery A of the same regiment and was subsequently raised to Corporal, Sergeant, Second Lieutenant and finally to the Captaincy in acknowledgment of his efficiency. This rapid rise in rank was completed in less than ten years and reflected creditably on Captain Lloyd's ability as a leader.

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*Company A, formerly Independent City Guard, redesignated Battery A, First Artillery Regiment, March 19, 1880.
Adjutant General Report 1880, Special Order No. 19, page 76.

**Company A, formerly Battery A, First Artillery Regiment redesignated Company A, Second Infantry Regiment, Fourth Brigade, July 1, 1893.
Adjutant General Report 1893-1894, General Order No. 7, page 97.

***Captain Glas and Lieutenant Lloyd retained their former commissions as of August 2, 1888, respectively, when they commanded Battery A, First Artillery Regiment, Fourth Brigade.

COMPANY A (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

The first public appearance Company A made, after the reconstitution of the regiment, was the parade on the Fourth of July. The unit participated in the parades on Washington's Birthday and Memorial Day during their short existence in the service, and also held target practice in September 1893 as required by law. The commanding officers had the interests of the company in view and required the members to take part in weekly drills. One meeting a month was held to give advice and instruction to the commissioned and non-commissioned officers.

Major Frank D. Ryan was the officer who inspected and mustered the company on March 14, 1893, at the Annual Inspection. Fifty members were present, and with only six absent the unit made a favorable percentage present rating of 89.28 per cent. The report stated the discipline, instruction and military appearance good, while arms and other property were in excellent condition.

The outstanding event in the history of the unit was their attitude in participating in the Railroad Strike, July 1894. Sacramento as one of the chief railroad centers in the State was one of the points most affected by the strike. The strikers were numerically strong, well organized and desperate to the degree of obtaining their supposed rights. The trouble rapidly grew beyond the control of the local authorities who could not cope with the situation. When it was found impossible to break the strike blockade, the National Guard was called upon to assist the United States Regulars in ensuring free passage of the mail. The Second Infantry to which Company A was attached was under the command of Colonel John W. Guthrie, Brigadier-General T. W. Sheehan had charge of the Fourth Brigade.

On July Fourth General W. H. Dimond ordered the troops to report to the depot for duty. Company A refused to go, stacking their arms and putting the uniforms in the wardrobe. General Sheehan went to the armory and questioned the unit as to their willingness to go out and obey orders. After a consultation among the members of the company the men replied that in deference to the esteem in which the General was held the unit would go out if commanded, but stipulated that they would refuse to fire on the strikers as many were their friends, and generally agreed that the unit preferred to do guard duty. Later in the day the company was dismissed. Captain John Cook, Battery B, Light Artillery, unattached, had been placed in command of the armory guard at the beginning of the strike. One of the captain's duties on July Fourth was to prevent any of the members of Company A from taking arms out of the armory. No controversy on this score arose, however, for when the corps had prepared for their homes, Captain

COMPANY A (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Lloyd locked the door of the company's quarters and formally turned the key over to the armorer. As a precautionary measure the company's arms were taken from the armory and stored in the basement of the State Capitol for safety.*

Although, the unit was anxious to be called for service later and Captain Lloyd reported for instructions daily, it was not until the twenty-third of the month that Company A was ordered to Dunsmuir to relieve the troops stationed at that point. Major William H. Curson was commander of the troops, including Company A of Sacramento and Company F of Woodland stationed at Dunsmuir. The unit remained on duty at that point until the thirtieth when orders were issued to return to Sacramento. Major General W. B. Dimond had issued the orders commanding Company A to go to Dunsmuir on the recommendation of General Sheehan who interceded on the corps behalf, stating that in his opinion, the unit had been sufficiently punished for their insubordination.**

In November of that year the Court of Inquiry which had previously been appointed to thoroughly investigate the conduct of the troops during the strike, found Company A guilty of mutiny for refusing to obey orders on the Fourth of July. The individual members were not submitted to Court Martial proceedings, due to the fact that they had proven their loyalty while on duty at Dunsmuir. Company A was mustered out of service on the Court's recommendation by General Order No. 14, effective December 10, 1894.***

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*Sacramento Bee, July 5, 1894, page 1, columns 1-4.

**Sacramento Bee, July 25, 1894, page 2, column 1.

***For further details of the activities of Company A during the Railroad Strike and the action that the Court of Inquiry took in regards to the company refer to the National Guard and the Railroad Strike of 1894. Adjutant General's Office. Adjutant General Report 1893-1894, General Order No. 14, page 310.